

TAPE 52
Side A,

29 July 80
To *for*
action.

25X1

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MEMORANDUM FOR:

FROM: D C I

SUBJECT:

1. I haven't seen much on what happened to this fellow who
reportedly shot Tabatai here in Washington.

25X1

2. When does Ramadan end?

ARTICLE APPEARED
ON PAGE A1

THE WASHINGTON STAR (GREEN LINE)
2 June 1980

Ramsey Clark, In Tehran, Calls Raid 'Lawless'

By Raji Samghabadi
Special to The Washington Star

TEHRAN, Iran. — Former Attorney General Ramsey Clark, in Tehran for an international conference on "U.S. crimes in Iran," told reporters today that the U.S. military attempt to release the American hostages "was a lawless act" which violated the U.S. Constitution.

The 10-member U.S. delegation headed by Clark, which went despite administration warnings of stiff fines and prison terms for violating a U.S. ban on travel to Iran, is among delegations from about 100 countries.

The conference opened today with a blistering denunciation of Washington in a message sent by Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini.

Clark's comments were made after the conference's morning session.

In Philadelphia, the American Friends Service Committee said the Americans accepted invitations to attend "in the hope that they may help to diffuse tensions between the two countries."

"The delegation believes that its participation may begin a needed dialogue. The delegation has been assured that the conference will entertain discussions of every relevant issue including the great concern for the American hostages," the statement said.

U.S. Attorney General Benjamin R. Civiletti issued a statement Friday saying that "persons who violate these rules (against travel to Iran) are subject to penalties of up to 10 years in prison and fines of up to \$50,000 under the international emergency economic powers act."

President Carter signed an executive order April 17 prohibiting American travel to Iran without special permission, with reporters exempted.

Meanwhile, Iran's Revolutionary Council decided last night not to attend the Moscow Olympics despite great pressure by Iranian sports organizations and moderate groups for Iran's attendance.

President Abolhassan Bani-Sadr said that after contacts with Afghan revolutionaries Iran determined it could not attend the Olympics without "impairing the Afghan freedom fighters' morale." That's why, he said, Iran made a firm decision not to attend.

Carter had dispatched Ramsey Clark on a mission to Tehran last November, shortly after the U.S. Embassy there was overrun, to try and talk with Iranian officials about release of the hostages. But Clark, who was accompanied by Senate staff official William Miller, never got permission to enter Tehran and that mission ended in Istanbul, Turkey.

Clark had visited Khomeini in Paris in the fall of 1978 when the then-exiled ayatollah was organizing the revolution against the shah. Clark then praised Khomeini's "liberal and progressive" views and rebuffed critics who charged Khomeini intended to impose on Iran a medieval social and governmental system.

Ahmad Salamati, an aide to Iranian President Bani-Sadr, said the conference that opened today is not a substitute for a trial of 53 U.S. hostages held in Iran since Nov. 4.

"If its findings can provide evidence for a tribunal (for the trial of the Americans), so be it," said Salamati, who was in charge of organizing the conference. "But I should like to emphasize that this is not a tribunal, it is a conference."

Salamati said the introductory report to the conference would draw on documents seized in the U.S. Embassy in Tehran, showing, he said, how the U.S. government consistently intervened in Iranian affairs.

Documents so far released by militants who are now keeping the hostages in 17 cities across Iran provide evidence of normal diplomatic assessments of the situation in Iran as well as some intelligence operations. The press and the government here have almost always lumped all such activities together as "crimes against Iran."

In his message to the conference, Khomeini said documents provided to the gathering showed only "a tiny fraction of U.S. government crimes in Iran."

"U.S. advisers directly interfered

in the internal affairs of our nation. . . . We cannot provide all the documents related to the crimes committed for 50 years by the former regime and for 30 years by the U.S.," Khomeini said.

One of the "greatest crimes of the U.S.," said the ayatollah, was its imposition of "the capitulations" — the exemption of U.S. personnel from prosecution by the Iranian judiciary while serving in Iran. The law for the capitulations was passed in early 1960s and evoked violent reaction from the clergy, especially Khomeini.

The law went beyond the normal diplomatic immunity given foreign diplomats. It covered American military advisers as well and was much more thoroughgoing than diplomatic privilege. Khomeini also charged that the U.S. placed "special equipment in its embassy in Tehran for espionage against Iran and the entire region."

Tehran papers led with huge headlines about the conference and Khomeini's message. On the eve of the conference, the national radio ridiculed President Carter's human rights policy and denounced his opposition to participation of the U.S. delegation.

In addition to Clark, the American delegation was said to include:

George Wald (Nobel Prize winner in science); May Anderson of Cambridge, Mass., representing the American Friends Service Committee; Kay Camp, International president of Women's International League for Peace and Freedom; the Rev. John Walsh, chaplain at Princeton University; the Rev. Charles Kimball, post-doctoral student in Islamic studies at Harvard Divinity School; the Rev. Paul Washington, Episcopal minister in Philadelphia; Leonard Weinglass, attorney in Los Angeles; Lenox Hinds, professor of Law at Rutgers; and John Derrase, freelance journalist from New York.